

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING ARMY BRIGADIER
GENERAL ISABEL RIVERA SMITH

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishments of an extraordinary woman and hometown heroine, Brigadier General Isabel Rivera Smith of Lorain, Ohio.

BGen Smith, who was born and raised in Lorain, Ohio, was a member of Sacred Heart Parish and a graduate of Admiral King High School.

She first enlisted into the active Army in October of 1985 as a Motor Transport Operator, with her first duty station at Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

In 1988, she enlisted in the North Carolina Army National Guard and in 1989 she transferred to the New York Army National Guard. She was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the Quartermaster Corps after graduating from Officer Candidate School.

BGen Smith's command assignments and operational deployment include Commander of HHD, 53rd Troop Command, Commander of the 369th Special Troops Battalion and Deputy Team Chief-Iraq Police National Headquarters in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, 2010.

Her key staff assignments include Assistant Operational Officer at the 27th Rear Area Operations Center; personalist for the 369th Corps Support Battalion, Assistant Chief of Staff for Personnel, G1 for the 53rd Troop Command, Executive Officer of the 106th Regional Training Institute, Deputy Director of Logistics (J4) for the New York National Guard, Executive Officer for the Office of the Adjutant General, and the Chief of Staff for the 53rd Troop Command.

BGen Smith's awards include the Legion of Merit, the Bronze Star Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, and the Humanitarian Service Medal. She is also the recipient of the 2017 Latina Style Military Service Award.

BGen Smith holds a bachelor's degree in Human Services from Mount St. Mary's College, a master's degree in Education in Counseling and Development from Long Island University and a master's degree in Strategic Studies from the United States Army War College.

She and her husband Peter have six daughters: Antoinette, Amelia, Karissa, Kassandra, Jessica, and Shannon, and one son: Jamarr. They are also the proud grandparents of nine grandchildren.

Our country could not be prouder of Brigadier General Isabel Rivera Smith, a daughter of Ohio, trailblazer, and a true American patriot. The words of Army General Omar Bradley aptly capture BGen Smith's professional accomplishments: "Leadership is intangible, and therefore no weapon ever designed can replace it."

CHEYENNE MYLA VERHAEGHE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Cheyenne Myla Verhaeghe for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Cheyenne Myla Verhaeghe is a 12th grader at Thornton High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Cheyenne Myla Verhaeghe is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Cheyenne Myla Verhaeghe for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL "MICKEY" DEPALO

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Michael "Mickey" DePalo for his innumerable contributions to veterans and the residents of the City of Burbank, California.

Mickey has been a Burbank resident for sixty-five years. He graduated from Burbank High School in 1964, and the following year, began his four-decades-long career with the City of Burbank Parks and Recreation Department. Shortly after graduating from college, Mr. DePalo briefly left the City of Burbank to honorably serve in the U.S. Army for two years during the Vietnam War.

As a child, Mickey played many sports, including flag football, baseball, softball and basketball. His love of sports continued into adulthood, and along with participating in Burbank sports leagues, he has generously volunteered his time and knowledge to the sports organizations for decades. He was a volunteer baseball, flag football and basketball coach for the City's Parks and Recreation Department, and a volunteer assistant coach for his son, Michael's youth basketball teams. Additionally, Mr. DePalo was Loyola High School Cross Country Team's volunteer coach and the race director for Burbank's Run for the Hungry for ten years.

A staunch advocate for veterans and their welfare, Mickey has been Chairperson of the

Burbank Veterans Commemorative Committee and the emcee for the Veterans Day and Memorial Day ceremonies at McCambridge Park in Burbank for over thirty years. Under his leadership, the committee has organized numerous veterans events in Burbank, including one event that Mr. DePalo is most proud of—assisting the City in 1998 to be selected as a site to host The Moving Wall, a replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial in Washington, D.C. that tours the nation. He also worked on the Hands Across the Battlefield program, which partners with community businesses and individuals to collect and send supplies to our troops, and has raised funds for youth and veterans organizations in his role as Sr. Vice Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8310.

A few of the numerous community awards and commendations Mr. DePalo has received include the Burbank Association of Realtors' Citizen of the Year Award, an induction into the City of Burbank's Athletics Walk of Fame, the L.A. County Older Americans Volunteer Service Award, and the Veteran of the Year Award from both Assemblyman Paul Krekorian in 2009 and from Assemblymember Laura Friedman in 2017.

It is my honor to call Michael "Mickey" DePalo a friend and I want to thank him for over half a century of extraordinary support and dedication to our nation's veterans and the community of Burbank. I ask all Members to join me in paying tribute to this extraordinary American patriot.

RECOGNIZING THE FRONTLINE HEALTHCARE WORKERS OF SOUTH DAKOTA

HON. DUSTY JOHNSON

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mr. JOHNSON of South Dakota. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize, celebrate, and honor the frontline healthcare workers of the great state of South Dakota.

Some of these South Dakota heroes are: Amanda Thedens, Mariah Theel, Megan Theesfeld, Erin Theis, Rebecca Theisen, Brooke Theisen, Melynda Thelen, Kristi Theobald, Tamara Theobald, Lisa Theocharis, Amy Therkelsen, Cheryl Theusch, Katelyn Thibeault, Kari Thie, Brittney Thiel, Tareza Thiele, Karey Thieman, Susan Thies, Kierra Thies, Amy Thiesse, Shelly Thiewes, Kari Thill, Kristi Thill, Amy Thill, Jennifer Thimgan, Chelsie Thiry, Breanna Thiry, Helen Thiry-Chmela, Carol Thissell, Teresa Thode, Cynthia Thoene, Mickale Thoene, Cynthia Thomas, Jolene Thomas, Teri Thomas, Patricia Thomas, Lynn Thomas, Jane Thomas, Loretta Thomas, Darla Thomas, Gertrude Thomas, Kelly Thomas, Collin Thomas, Kimberly Thomas, Brooke Thomas, Haley Thomas, Dixie Thomas, Laura Thomas, JoElle Thomas, Kelsey Thomas, Laura Thomas, Lori Thomas,

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

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Mary Thomas, Veronica Thomas-Star Comes Out, Stacy Thomlison, Sateera Thompson, Jean Thompson, Marsha Thompson, Diane Thompson, Lynne Thompson, Robin Thompson, Elizabeth Thompson, Heather Thompson, Misty Thompson, Carmen Thompson, Stacie Thompson, Dona Thompson, Donna Thompson, Marsha Thompson, Anna Thompson, Michael Thompson, Amy Thompson, Alison Thompson, Sarah Thompson, Kathleen Thompson, Lindsey Thompson, Amelia Thompson, Jacob Thompson, Nicholas Thompson, Clay Thompson, Andra Thompson, Heather Thompson, Chelsey Thompson, Lindsay Thompson, Presley Thompson, Kristin Thompson, Joanne Thompson, Tiffany Thompson, Josy Thompson, Barbara Thompson, Amanda Thoms, Lacey Thomson, Allison Thomson, Vickie Thon, Colby Thoreson, Tanner Thorfinnson, Rebecca Thorn, Kayla Thornberry, Nancy Thornburg, Jecelyn Thorne, Yvonne Thornton, Brenda Thornton, Candace Thorpe, Isabel Thorpe, Susan Thorson, Linda Thorson, David Thorson, Christopher Thorson, Mark Thorson, Tadd Thorson, Sandra Thorson, Jaclyn Thorson, Sarah Thorson, Nina Thorstenson, Shelayne Thuen, Nancy Thum-Thomas, Rhonda Thurlow.

Erin Thurlow, James Thurman, Shelly Thurness, Deb Thurston, Sarah Thury, Annie Thury, Mary Thury, Julie Thyberg, Lois Thyne, Norma Tibbitts, Mika Tibbs, Katharine Tibbs, Shelly Tibke, Jill Tice, Grace Tidball, Anita Tidemann, Shelby Tidemann, Rona Tiede, Seth Tiedeman, Alisa Tielke, Joanne Tieman, Jodi Tieman, Mary Tierney, Michelle Tierney, Lori Tiesen, Debra Tieszen, Heather Tietjen, Tasha Tietz, Tiffany Tietz, Kennedy Tietz, Tessa Tigert, Pamela Tiggelaar, Vicki Tigner, Oluwabusayo Tijani, Amber Tilberg, Amanda Tilberg, Tia Tiller, Steven Tilley, Katie Tillisch, Alexa Tillma, Jennifer Tillma, Penelyn Tilton, April Timat, Jennifer Timm, Amy Timm, Chelsey Timmerman, Bonnie Timmons, Barbara Timperley, Jeanine Tims, Mackenzie Tims, Kayla Tinker, Rachel Tinker, Melinda Tinkle, Kathleen Tinklenberg, Jana Tinnell, Stephanie Tipton, Katie Tirrel, Sadie Tisdale, Peggy Tisdell, Jackie Tish, Melanie Tish, Jacquelyn Tish, Megan Tish, Stacy Tisher, Joan Titus, Lindsey Titus, Kenda Titze, Erin Tivis, Miranda Tjeerdsma, Ermias TMariam, Jennifer Toates, Robin Tobin, Kristin Tobin, Jill Tobin, Amy Tobin, Shannon Tobin, Erin Tobin, Jill Tobin, Shauna Tobin, Judith Toennies, Mary Toering, Sheri Tokheim, Jessica Toland, Brianna Tolbert, Debra Tollefson, Kelly Tolley, Kimberly Tollman, Desiree Tolo, Marcia Tolsma, Paula Tolsma, Lora Tolsma, Rebecca Tolsma, Mary Tolvstad, Jodi Tolzin, Linda Tom, Dawn Tomac, Kenneth Tomek, April Tomes, Cheryl Tomjack, Laura Tommeraasen, Jerilyn Tommeraasen, Melissa Tompkins, Patricia Tompkins, Cori Tonjes, Shelby Tooley, Elizabeth Toomajian, Desirae Toomey, Gloria Top, Kristen Top, Tammy Top, Megan Topf, Jordan Toquinto, Baylee Tordsen, Meghan Torgerson, Jordan Torigian, Rita Torkelson, Laura Torkildson, Allison Torrance, Luis

Torres Negron, Norma Torres Ortiz, Penny Toth, Andra Toth, Diane Tounsley, Lindsey Tounsley, Patrick Tounsignant, Mary Tow, Aimee Tow, Jody Towey, Lynssa Towne, Lynda Townsend, Brenda Townsend.

Todd Townsend, Andrew Townsend, Hayley Townsend, Elizabeth Townsend, Monica Trabing, Joy Tracy, Kelly Tracy, Floramae Traefald, Holly Traen, Rebekah Trahms, Larissa Trainer, Christine Trainor, Molly Tramp, Tiffany Tramp, Elizabeth Tramp, Anthony Tran, Chau Tran, Marcie Tranquill, Christina Trant, Heather Traphagen, Mary Lee Trapp, Patti Trapp, Trisha Trapp, Kari Trapp, Angela Trask, Melissa Traub, Makenzie Traufler, Sheri Traupel, Mary Travis, Dawn Traviss, Eric Traviss, Kaitlin Travnick, Lisa Tribby, Stacey Trease, Erica Trebesch, Heather Trebesch, Emily Trebil, Kristin Treeby, Brandi Trego, Jessica Trei, Christy Treib, Keylee Treiber, Zachery Treiber, Mary Treinen, Barbara Trevett, Lisa Trewin, Kessa Tribby, Kaley Triebwasser, Vicki Triggs, MacKenzie Trimble, Kasey Tripp, Thomas Trobak, Mackenzie Trom, Jenny Trople, Megan Trotter, Jade Trottier, Vernal Trove, Amanda Trowbridge, Mary Truckenmiller, Nicole Trudeau, Mandy Trudeau, Cydney Trudeau, Karen Trueblood, Terence Truex, Lorie Truhe, Ashley Trulock, Lisa Tryon, Megan Tryon, Johnney Tsai, Lindsay Tschakert, Jennifer Tschetter, Lois Tschetter, Gail Tschetter, Larry Tschetter, Connie Tschetter, Gary Tschetter, Melissa Tschetter, Donna Tschetter, Molly Tschetter, Lisa Tschetter, Brianna Tschetter, Sydney Tschetter, Roxanne Tschudy, Valentina Tsymbalist, Jessica Tubergen, Sandra Tucholke, Autumn Tucker, Kylie Tucker, Katie Tuff, Melinda Tuffs, Michele Tufty, Lexi Tuholsky, Andrea Tuley, Samantha Tully, Julie Tulowetzke, Courtney Tulson, Dereck Tuntland, Justin Tuntland, Carol Tupper, Jordan Tupper, Susan Tupy, Kimberly Turbak, Michele Turbak, Roselie Turcotte, Kristin Turek, Jennifer Turek, Connor Turek, Mia Turgeon, Aubry Turman, Katherine Turner, Stephanie Turner, Sueann Turner, Rachel Turner, Amy Turner, Hillary Turner, Rebecca Turner, Susan Turner, Delinda Turner, Katherine Turner, Marissa Turner, Patricia Turnwall, Emily Turnwall, Barbra Tuschen, Cynthia Tuschen, Jolene Tuschen, Eric Tuschen, Tara Tuscherer.

Melanie Tuttle, Brooke Tuttle, Molly Tuttle, Ashlee Tuttle, Jourdan Tuttle, Karen Tvedt, Joanne Tvedt, Jessica Tvedt, Siri Tvedt, Darcie Tveidt, Sharina Tveit, Jayme Tveter, Debra Tvinnereim, Elizabeth Twamley, Chelsea Twamley, Linda Twedt, Lola Twedt, Kristin Twedt, Deborah Tweed, Diana Twidwell, Ashlee Twite, Karen Kim Ty, Rachel Tycz, Robyn Tyler, Julie Tyler, Tena Tyree, Madeline Tyrell, Madison Uchytill, Davonne Uecker, Jodi Uecker, Sara Ugland, Melinda Ugland, Katie Uhall, Sara Uhen, Brooke Uherka, Tina Uhing, Benjamin Uhlich, Tricia Uhlir, Donna Uhrich, Megan Uhrich, Aimee Uhrig, Jillian Uhrig, Brandi Uithoven, Joseph Ulin, Danielle Ullmann, Renee Ullom, Aimee Ullom, Jennifer

Ulmer, Meagan Ulmer, Heather Ulmer, Lindsay Ulmer, Liza Ulmer, Lindsey Ulrich, Abbey Ulrich, Stephanie Ulses, Brylie Ummach, Alberta Underbaggage, Brandy Underberg, Britany Underberg, Cynthia Underhill, Heather Underwood, Heidi Underwood, Courtney Unruh, Luann Unterseher, John Unterseher, Lori Unzelman, Susan Urbach, Michelle Urban, Tiffany Urban, Kelie Urbanec, Taryn Urbaniak, Regena Urevig, Katie Urevig, Macy Urrutia, Charlene Usera, Jessica Utecht-Whillock, Callie Utemark, Jennifer Uthe, Juliana Utecht, Lacey Utecht, Jill Utter, Dawn Utzman, Allyson Vaca, Travis Vaca, Jana Vacek, Kristen Vail, Edward Vail, Jennifer Vaith, Bryan Vakiner, Taylor Vaksdal, Robert Valandra, Tarah Valandra, Erwin Valdez, Alondra Valdovinos, Bernalyn Vale, Dena Valentine, Erik Valer, Dawn Valer, Alexandra Valerio, Anthony Valse, Glenn Vallecera, Tamar Vallejio, Uchechi Val-Okolie, Sabrina Valsvig, Marcia Van Arkel, Elizabeth Van Beek, Ashley Van Beek, Candance Van Beek, Erika Van Beek, Twila Van Boven, Christi Van Buren, Nancy Van Dam, Stephanie Van Dam, Taylor Van Dam, Tanya Van De Stroet, Michelle Van Demark, Melissa Van Den Berg, Joan Van Den Hemel, Sarah Van Den Top, Kenneth Van Der Molen, Lois Van Der Vliet, Emily Van Deraa, Debra Van Diemen, Jessica Van Diepen.

David Van Dixhoorn, Marissa Van Driel, Nicole Van Dyke, Juli Van Engen, Betsy Van Genderen, Ashley Van Hill, Aimee Van Horsen, Jacob Van Horsen, Kimberly Van Iperen, Brittany Van Iperen, Sierra Van Iperen, Melissa Van Leeuwen, Jamie Van Lent, Morgan Van Maanen, Heather Van Marion, Kayla Van Meeteren, Dana Van Middendorp, Sarah Van Muyden, Whitney Van Ommeren, Nan Van Osdel, Alexandra Van Pelt, Nathan Van Peurse, Shaun Van Roekel, Earl Van Scooter, Erica Van Surksum, Brittany Van Tilburg, Mallary Van Tol, Marissa Van Veldhuizen, Jamie Van Vliet, Karmen Van Voorst, Erica Van Vugt, Kelli Van Vuuren, McKenzie Van Wagner, Jill Van Well, Sydney Van Wettering, Brittany Van Winkle, Marisa Van Winkle, Cami Van Wyhe, Stephanie Van Wyhe, Jennifer Van Wyhe, Heath Van Wyhe, Amanda Van Wyk, Tosha Van Zee, Deanna Van Zee, Melinda Van Zee, Lindsey Van Zee, Bailey Van Zee, Deborah Vanbeek, Linda VanBeek, Rebecca VanBeek, Laura VanBeek, Frances VanBockel, Jill VanBockern, Kimberly VanBockern, Sarah VanBriesen, Mary VanBuskirk, Kristin VanBuskirk, Miranda Vance, Sheila Vandam, Julie Vandam, Stephanie Vande Brake, Janelle Vande Griend, Mindi Vande Kamp, Natalie Vande Kamp, Adam Vande Kamp, Rebecca Vande Kieft, Jerica Vande Kop, Erin Vande Lune, Leah Vandeberg, Diane Vandekamp, Jacob VandeKamp, Stephanie Vandel, Stephenie Vanden Berge, Paige Vanden Bosch, Larissa Vanden Bosch, Kelsey Vanden Brink, Sandra Vanden Hoek, Ashley Vanden Hoek, Molly VandenBoogart, Lori Vandenbos, Laurel Vandenbosch.

Roxanne Vandendries, Evan VanDenEinde, Kari Vandenhemel, Darlene VandenHeuvel, Charles Vandeputte, Debra Vander Haar, Alex Vander Hoek, Jennylyn Vander Laan, Eric Vander Lee, Starla Vander Molen, Beverly Vander Pol, Carlie Vander Pol, Denise Vander Vliet, Robin Vander Vorst, Abbie Vander Zee, Aleta Vanderbeek, Lisa Vanderberg, Jessica Vanderham, Brianne VanderLeest.

Amy Vanderlei, Michelle Vandermay, Nicole VanderMay, Rebecca VanderMay, Aleigha VanderPoel, Haley Vanderpol, Laurinda VanderPol, Mark Vandersnick, Katie Vandersnick, Tiffany Vandersnick, Teresa VanderStouwe, Sheri Vanderwal, Mariah VanderWal, Jeannie VanderWeide, Donna VanderWeide, Austin Vanderweide, Christina Vanderwerff, Diana VanderWoude, Ramona VanderZee, Emily VanderZiel, Cindy Vandesteeg, Claudia VandeWalle, Brenda VanDewater, Gillian VanDiepen, Kylee VanDieren, Kari VanDonge, Sherra Vandonkersgoed, Barbara Vandonslear, Jennifer VanDriel, Rebecca VanDuyn, Carla Vandyke, Susan Vandyke, Alyssa VanDyke, Douglas Vanecek, Carol VanEmmerik, Stephanie VanGelder, Carrie Vangenderen, Lisa VanGerpen, Rachel VanHeel, Nancy Vanheerde, Carolyn VanHeerde, Terri Vanheuveld, Jessica VanHoorn, Linda Vanhove, Michelle VanHove, Heather VanKley, Lora VanLaacken, Rhonda Vanleur, Mindy VanLeur, Miranda VanLeur, Susan Vanliere, Emily Vanliith, Wendy Vanloan, Amy VanMaanen, Pamila VanMeeteren, Lynn VanMeeteren, Brian VanMeeteren, Danielle VanMeter, Melvin VanMeter III, Kari VanMeveren, Joy Vanorny, Jeffery Vanorny, Sarah Vanorny, Janine Vanosdel, Christine VanOsdol, Shelby Vanoverschelde, Charlotte VanRoekel, Amber VanRoekel, Cynthia VanRooyen, Vicki VanSchoiack, Janice VanSickle, Brandi Vansickle, Katelyn VanSteenberg, Carrie VanStryland, Angela Van Veldhuizen, Daniel Van Veldhuizen, Ashley Vanvoorhis, Christopher VanWassenhove, Barbara VanWassenhove, Wanda Vanwormer, Tara VanWye, Rachel VanZee, Tyniah VanZee, Lisa Varenhorst, Julia Vargas, Jean Vargas, Elyssa Vargo, Cassandra Varilek, Ann Varilek, Brandon Varilek, Jayme Varilek, Gayle Varty, Jamie Varuska, Gordon Varuska, Jami Varuska, Stephanie Vasgaard, Andrey Vasilevskiy, Patricia Vaska, Alicia Vasquez, Teri Vaughan, Constance Vaughn, John Vavra, Teresa Vavruska, Bonnita Vavruska, Meagan Veeder, Jane Veerman, Tiffany Veflin, Andrea Vega.

Carly Veil, Jannette Veit, Lisa Veit, Catherine Veit, Candace Veit, Juan Velarde, Jessica Velasquez, Debra Velazquez, Rhiannon Velazquez, Tammy Veld, Ladene Veldhouse, Christopher Veldhuisen, Rebecca Veldhuisen, Lora Veldhuizen, Jennifer Veldhuizen, Amile Veldkamp, Megan Veldkamp, Alexandra Velgersdyk, Christopher Velk, Brenda Vellek, Kelli Vellema, Deborah Venable, Maria Venard, Daniel Vendt, Tonya Venhuizen Matt, Marla Venjohn, Susan Venohr, Peggy

Venteicher, Cindy Ver Burg, Megan Ver Steeg, Emma Verby, Candace Verdoorn, Shaun Verdouw, Donna Verhelst, Patrick Verley, Marlene Vermeer, Lyla Jo Vermeer, Alicia Vermeulen, Ashley Vermeulen, Sonja Vermillion, Katherine Verner, Susan Verschoor, Claude Vershure, Elaine Vesely, Courtney Vesely, Hilary Veskna, Sheri Vetsch, Angelene Vetter, Heidi Vetter, Paulette Veurink, Jared Veurink, Angela Veurink, April Veurink, Melinda Veurink, Katie Veurink, Ashley Veurink, Glenda Vice, Kayla Vickerman, Travis Vickers, Jamie Vickery, Angela Victor, Susan Vik, Julie Vikhorev, Tara Vidoloff, Julie Viereck, Thomas Viereck, Karin Viereck, Abby Viereck, Kara Viereck, Brittany Vierhout, Melissa Vig, Debbie Vigness, Mary Vigoren, Susan Vik, Julie Vikhorev, Tara Viktora, Barbara Villmow, Dorothy Vincent, Sophia Vining, Janet Virchow, Christine Virchow, Lanny Virchow, Danielle Vis, Stacy Vis, Courtney Visaya, Stacy Visker, Jeanine Visser, Jessica Visser, Sandra Visser, Michelle Vissers, Gabrielle Vizcarra, Jolynn Vlaminc, Amanda Vlaminc, Stephanie Vlaminc, Lynette Vlastuin, Noelle Vlastuin, Racheal Vockler, Mary Vockrodt, Penny Voegel, Gaylene Voegeli, Victorria Voegeli, Sheila Voelsch, Nicolle Voeltz, Kathleen Vogel, Staci Vogel, Kristen Vogel, Elizabeth Vogelsong, Jane Vogt, Melinda Vogt, Kristal Vogt, Susan Vogt, Erin Voight, Tina Voigt, Dorinda Voita, Dolores Volek, Juneanne Volk, Roxanne Volk, Jennifer Volk, Barb Volker, Courtney Volker, Linda Vollar, Nicole Vollar, Kristi Voller, Rachelle Vollmer, Brittney Vollmer, Jacqueline Volz.

Colleen Volzke, Maryls Volzke, Kara Von Holtum, Jane Von Wald, Rebecca Vonderohe, Samantha Voneye, Bumpeng Vongkaenchan, Phuong Anh Vongkhamchanh, Bouakhine Vongphachan, Amanda Vongroven, Jeanette Voorhees, Dawn Voorhees, Karli Voorhees, Rebecca Voris, Sarah Vortherms, Sarah Vorvick, Kristi Vos, Sara Vosler, Mary Voss, Victoria Voss, Jo Voss, Mindy Voss, Staci Voss, Nicole Voss, Brian Voss, Megan Voss, Erika Voss, Mitchell Voss, Janai Voss, Rebecca Vossler, Jordan Voss Severson, Naomi Vostad, Tamara Vottero, Sasha Vreugdenhil, Kiera Vroegop, Kimberly Vulpe, Jamie Vuong, Dawn Waack, Patty Waage, Morghan Waage, Alicia Waala, Shelby Waba, Taylor Waba, Sarah Wabuge, Amber Wachter, Katherine Wackel, Darilee Waddell, Rachel Waddell, Corey Waddell, Douglas Wade, Shantelle Wade, Ann Wade, Belinda Wagemann, Melanie Wagenaar, Kea Wager, Jill Waggoner, Kevin Waggoner, Kerry Wagner, Carla Wagner, Joyce Wagner, Theresa Wagner, Connie Wagner, Nicole Wagner, Diane Wagner, Jessica Wagner, Nicholas Wagner, Ashley Wagner, Madisen Wagner, Jennifer Wagner, Wanda Wahl, Tamela Wahl, Tana Wahl, Judy Wahlen, Billie Wainman, Cari Wainwright, Lenel Waite, Jenny Waite, Shelby Waite, Victoria Waitman, Janice Walberg, Clare Wald, Andrea Wald, Brittany Waldal, Ashley Walder, Chase Walder, Amber Walder, Jessica Waldman, Jackie Waldner, Karen

Waldner, Anna Waldner, Dawn Waldner, Shanon Waldner, Brittany Waldner, Melissa Waldner, Kendra Waldner, Vanessa Waldner, Rachel Waldner, Dylan Waldner, Rhoda Waldner, Alfred Waldo, Elizabeth Waldow, Breah Waldron, Tammie Waldrop, Andrea Waletich, LaVonne Walker, Leah Walker, Diane Walker, Dotta-Jo Walker, Adam Walker, Brandalyn Walker, Joanne Walker, Rachel Walker, Katie Walker, Chaska Walker, Sindle Walker, Justine Walker, Alan Walker, Megan Walker, Amy Walker, Danielle Walker, Cyla Walker, Angela Walker, Dorothy Walker Lewis, Nancy Walkins-Anderson, Cynthia Wallace.

Denise Wallace, Amber Wallace, Erin Wallace, Hunter Wallace, Amy Wallace, Mariah Wallace, Shanna Wallen, Megan Wallenberg, Karen Wallenberg, Jeffrey Wallenberg, Hope Wallenstein, Vida Waller, Jennifer Waller, Mary Wallin, Coty Wallin, Twila Wallmann, Joel Wallner, Pamela Walloch, Mary Walloch, Janet Walls, Vicky Walls, Emily Wallum, Amanda Wallum, Sammie Waln, Anna Walraven, Julie Walsh, Kristen Walsh, Karla Walsh, MacKenzie Walsh-Keeley, Anita Walsh-Sunde, Shelly Walstead, Barbara Walter, Marian Walter, Justina Walter, Vanessa Walter, Susan Walter, Ashley Walter, MacKenzie Walter, Deborah Walter Laws, Darcel Walters, Connie Jo Walters, Suzanne Walth, Shelly Waltjer, Jon Waltjer, Madisyn Waltjer, Patricia Waltman, Sharon Waltner, Audrey Waltner, Polly Waltner, Kieran Waltner, Brennan Waltner, Kelly Walton, Abby Walton, Lisa Walton, Erica Walton, Holly Walton, Scott Walton, Taylor Walvatne, Karissa Walz, Cathy Walz, Christa Walz, Debra Walz, Tammy Walz, Olga Wamara, Elizabeth Wambua, Mica Wamstad, Alexandria Wang, Brittany Wangsness, Terry Wangsness Jr, Milkah Wanjohi, Christine Wanless, Annette Wanner, Keith Wanner, Robin Wanous-Williamson, Debra Waples, Patricia Ward, Luanne Ward, Lynn Ward, Abbie Ward, Rebecca Ward, Lynn Ward, Justin Ward, Courtney Ward, Cassandra Ward, Jennie Warden, Jordan Wardenburg, Alex Warkenthien, Molly Warkenthien, Vicki Warne, Rodney Warneke, Mackenzie Warner, Daniel Warner, Judith Warnke, Carla Warnke, Kellyna Warnke, Daniel Warnke, Meghann Warnke, Stephanie Warnke, Mindy Warns, Mary Warns-Anderson, Dawn Warren, Jennifer Warren, Amy Warren, Alicia Warrington, Robyn Warrington, Leslie Washegesic, Danielle Washegesic, Wayne Washenberger, Kimberly Washenberger, Bethany Washington, Marguerite Washnok, Rebecca Washnok, LuAnn Wasilk, Heather Wasilk, Kelly Wasko, Alexandria Wasko, Cheryl Wasland, Molly Wasserburger, Kalleen Wasson, Joanne Waterbury, Jo Waters, Heidi Waters.

Mariah Waters, Sheena Watkins, Carla Watkins, Danielle Watkins, Hailee Watkins, Lori Watson, Diane Watson, Ronnie Watson, Cynthia Watson, Julie Watson, Elizabeth Watson, Chelsey Watson, Megan Watson, Sara Watson, Darien Watson, Johnna Watt, Melanie Watt, Karen Watterson, Erin Wattier, Haley

Watzek, Lyndsey Watzek, Kandace Wauer, Abigail Waylander, Cassandra Weatherford, Katie Weatherill, Susan Weaver, Angela Weaver, Troy Weaver, Joy Weaver, Nicole Weaver, Debra Webb, Nancy Webb, Melissa Webb, Jennifer Webb, Jami Webb, Ryan Webb, Alicia Webb, Danielle Webb, Andrea Camille Webb, Heather Webb, Kari Webber, Gloria Weber, Colleen Weber, Lori Weber, Karen Weber, Janice Weber, Anthony Weber, Darcy Weber, Kathleen Weber, John Weber, Michele Weber, Jon Weber, Nichole Weber, Betty Weber, Robyn Weber, Crystal Weber, Brooke Weber, Lindsay Weber, Courtney Weber, Chase Weber, Kherdine Weber, Catherine Weber, Justyne Weber, Adam Weber, Mariah Weber, Kaitlyn Weber, Abigail Weber, Krystal Weber, Ashley Weber, Eric Weber, Sloane Weber, Marissa Weber, Kelsey Weber, Emily Weber, Chantel Weber, Alec Weber, Brooke Weber, Dominick Weber, Gayle Webert, Jessica Webster, Rikka Webster, Jennifer Wechsler, Diane Weck, Paige Weeden, Holly Weeg, Tristina Weekley, Tiffany Weeks, Katrina Weeks, Kali Weelborg, Charish Weeldreyer, Rebecca Weeldreyer, Sandra Weeldreyer, Rebecca Weeman, Tara Weeman, Kortney Weems, Koressa Weems, Marlys Weerts, Savannah Weg, Daniel Wegehaupt, Lori Wegehaupt, Rebecca Wegener, Brooke Wegener, Donna Wegman, Teri Wegner, Kristie Wehrkamp, Elizabeth Wehrkamp, Tami Weich, Jenna Weich, Jacqueline Weidauer, Paula Weideman, Jade Weideman, Brittney Weidenbach, Heather Weidner, Theresa Weidner Eichstadt, Michelle Weidner-Jordan, Lisa Weier, Dawn Weier, Michelle Weier, Abby Weier, Anissa Weier, Jeff Weifenbach, Esther Weightman, Diana Weiland, Rosemary Weiland, Stacey Weinkauf.

Sandra Weinmaster, Jodi Weins, Abigail Weinzelt, Kayla Weis, Tamera Weis, Sarena Weis, Kelly Weis, Allison Weisbeck, Kristi Weisbeck, Laura Weisberg, Charleen Weismantel, Anne Weiss, Beverly Weiss, Sandra Weiss, Rhonda Weisser, Patrice Weisser, Louise Weisser, Katie Weiszhaar, Rebecca Weitbrecht, Jacqueline Wek, Laurel Wek, Alyssa Welbig, Tina Welbig, Kristen Welbig, Brittnay Welbig, Renee Welch, Scott Welch, Franki Welch, Aaron Welch, Justin Welch, Kayley Welch, Mandy Welk, Tandra Welk, Kathleen Welken, Brooke Welker, Kathryn Weller, Kay Weller, Dody Weller, Annette Weller, Naomi Wellman, Christi Wellman, Rachel Wellner, Jessica Wellnitz, Diane Wells, Kimberly Wells, Michelle Wells, Emily Wells, Steven Wells, Rita Welsh, Reta Welsh, Megan Welsh, Joseph Welty, Wendy Welty, Chelsea Welty, Denaeh Wemhoff, Isabella Wen, Debbie Wendelboe, Carmen Wendell, Barbara Wendell-Schechter, Marjell Wendland, Mikayla Wendland, Marlaina Wendland, Ashley Wendler, Nicole Wendling, Teresa Wendling, Sarah Wendorff, Karrie Wendt, Brenda Wendt, Tod Wendt, Megan Wendt, Kalen Wenger, Valerie Wengler, Elizabeth Wengler, Samantha Wenker, Terrence Wensing, Katherine Wenwoi, Jackie Wenz, Wyman Wenz, Rachel Wenzel, Myra Werkmeister, Bryan Wermers, Lisa Wermers, Krissa Wermers, Kathryn Wermers, Dana Wermers, Suzanne Werner, Joseph Werner, Melissa Werner, Paige Werner, Joan Werning, Lois Werning, Janet Wernisch, Laurie Wernke, Douglas Wernke, Maureen Wernsmann, Elizabeth Wersal, Lenora Werth, Nanci Wescott, Kyle

Wescott, Meghan Wesely, Andrea Wessel, Veronica Wesseling, Robyn Wessels, Stephanie Wessels, Sandra Wessendorf, Blake West, Brandon West, Janice Westall, Debra Westberg, Chantell Westberg, Kari Westenkirchner, Jenna Westerberg, Lynn Westerdahl, Eli Westerdahl, Loralyn Westergaard, Wendy Westergaard, Chelsea Westerman, Tara Westhoff, Holly Westley, Libby Westman, Megan Weston, Shelbi Westover, Katherine Westphal, Nicole Westra, Kelli Westra, Samantha Wetch, Julie Wetering, Jason Wetsch, Megan Wetsit, Jessica Wettestad, April Wetz, Marie Weverstad, Emily Wevik, Carter Wevik, and Carmen Wexler.

Over the past year they have faced challenges most of us cannot even imagine. They have shown incredible resolve in the face of adversity. They have shown us all how to seek positivity and hope in each day as we weather the storms that come our way.

I couldn't be more thankful to represent the incredible people across South Dakota and all over the nation who work hard each day, not for fame, not for recognition or for money, but for the betterment of their communities. This is what makes America strong. I am grateful for the opportunity to recognize these hard-working individuals.

TREVOR FIGASZEWSKI

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Trevor Figaszewski for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Trevor Figaszewski is a student at Arvada K-8 and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Trevor Figaszewski is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Trevor Figaszewski for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JODEY C. ARRINGTON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mr. ARRINGTON. Madam Speaker, unfortunately I was unable to be present for one of the votes on April 14, 2021. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call No. 101.

RECOGNIZING MONTAGUE WILDCATS' GIRLS GOLF TEAM STATE TITLE

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mr. HUIZENGA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the Montague Wildcats on their incredible Division 4 golf state title at Forest Akers West Golf Course in East Lansing, MI.

This team has shown a great level of resilience and skill throughout this past year in their quest to the state title. Notably, the Wildcats displayed extraordinary talent on the course finishing with a combined team score of 343; a full 27 shots ahead of the nearest competitor.

I would like to congratulate each player and coach of the Montague Wildcats who played an integral role in capturing the state title:

Players: Mackenzie Goudreau, Gabriella Moreau, Katie Unger, Megan Brown, Orianna Bylsma, Isabelle McKeown, Claire Meacham, and Natalie Kellogg;

Coach: Phil Kerr.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating the Montague Wildcats Division 4, golf state title and for being a Michigan symbol of resilience in the face of this ongoing pandemic.

HONORING THE LIFE OF GRACE PUGH

HON. GRACE F. NAPOLITANO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Madam Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise to honor the life of Grace Pugh, a West Covina resident who died on April 6, 2021.

For over 38 years, Ms. Pugh served as a volunteer for the American Cancer Society, and as a Legislative Ambassador with the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network. She was a three-time breast cancer survivor and saw first-hand its devastating impact. Ms. Pugh lost both her mother and her grandson to cancer, and her two sisters were cancer survivors. This personal experience helped drive her deep and profound commitment to fight back against cancer.

As an advocate with the American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network, Ms. Pugh used her boundless energy and passion to help build bipartisan support for legislation to help advance the fight against cancer. She traveled multiple times to Washington, D.C. and Sacramento, CA to meet with her elected representatives, and regularly visited their district offices, sent emails, and made phone calls to convey the importance and urgency of making the fight against cancer a top priority.

Ms. Pugh devoted countless hours of her time and worked tirelessly to help educate people about prevention and early detection, and support for patients, survivors, and caregivers. She dedicated herself to the American Cancer Society's patient support services, including the Reach to Recovery Program, which provides one-on-one support to those diagnosed with breast cancer.

I extend my sincere sympathies to Ms. Pugh's three children, Bud, Kathy, and Ken, her six grandchildren, eight great-grandchildren, and to the extended Pugh family and friends. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join us to honor this fearless advocate.

ELIAS VAUGHNS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Elias Vaughns for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Elias Vaughns is a 6th grader at Pinnacle Charter School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Elias Vaughns is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Elias Vaughns for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING NORTHWEST INDIANA HIGH-SCHOOL BASKETBALL TEAMS

HON. FRANK J. MRVAN

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mr. MRVAN. Madam Speaker, as an avid basketball player, it gives me great pleasure to recognize the exceptional achievements of all of the high-school basketball players in Northwest Indiana this past year, who safely showed up and put in the effort during the challenges of this health pandemic. I also want to recognize the following high-school basketball programs from Indiana's First Congressional District who represented our region during Semi-State and beyond this past season. Those teams include the Crown Point women's team, the Gary West Side men's team, and the Kouts men's team.

First, congratulations to the Lady Bulldogs of the Crown Point High School women's basketball team who won the Indiana High School Athletic Association's 4A State Championship on February 27, 2021. Special recognition also to Coach Chris Seibert who was appropriately named the 2021 Girls Basketball Coach of the Year by our leading local newspapers, the Post-Tribune and the Northwest Indiana Times, and also Jessica Carrothers who was named the Northwest Indiana Times 2021 Girls Basketball Player of the Year. I am inspired by the camaraderie of their team and the demonstration of how their hard-work has truly paid off.

Additionally, congratulations to the Gary West Side High School men's basketball team

who won their Regional championship game to advance to Indiana's Class 4A Semi-State on March 20, 2021. The Cougars fought their way for every second, taking the game to overtime where they lost by a mere five points. I applaud Coach Chris Buggs, his coaching staff, and the men who gave it their all to the very end.

And I also congratulate the Kouts High School men's basketball team for winning the Semi-State Championship for the first time in the school's history. The Mustangs competed in the IHSAA Class 1A State Tournament on April 3, 2021, and ended their season with an overall record of 29-3. I applaud Coach Kevin Duzan and these young men for their successful season and the legacy they have left.

These truly remarkable teams achieved great success during this very challenging year. For their skill, tremendous hard work, dedication to the game, and for representing our region, these outstanding young athletes deserve to be recognized and congratulated for their incredible seasons.

Madam Speaker, please join me again in congratulating our basketball players on their achievements and for making all of Northwest Indiana and their schools, families, and communities so very proud.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mr. SWALWELL. Madam Speaker, I missed one vote on Friday, February 26, 2021 and one vote on March 10, 2021. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: Roll Call Vote Number 46 (Ordering the Previous Question): YES; and Roll Call Vote Number 71 (Motion to Adjourn): NO.

ANABEL MARTINEZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Anabel Martinez for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Anabel Martinez is an 11th grader at Northglenn High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Anabel Martinez is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Anabel Martinez for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING MICHELLE BREWER FOR HER APPOINTMENT TO THE ONESTAR NATIONAL SERVICE COMMISSION

HON. BRIAN BABIN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mr. BABIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Michelle Brewer for her appointment by Governor Abbott to the prestigious OneStar National Service Commission. The Commission actively seeks out opportunities for Texas volunteers and charitable organizations to engage and connect with one another, and accelerates their impact on local communities. Furthermore, OneStar manages and operates the Rebuild Texas Fund, an organization dedicated to assisting Texans who are still feeling the devastating effects of Hurricane Harvey.

Michelle's time and experience with Hardin County Strong as Disaster Recovery Director has more than prepared her for this role. Over her past four years as director, Michelle was fundamental in helping her community recover from Hurricane Harvey, and she was able to use critical connections, resources, and her vast wealth of knowledge to bring desperately needed assistance to Hardin County in an expedited manner.

The most important duty of every public servant is giving back to the community they serve. Madam Speaker, I would like to honor my friend, Michelle Brewer, for her work experience and time in Hardin County that demonstrate she more than exceeds this expectation. I cannot think of an individual better suited for this position.

RECOGNIZING WWII VETERAN LEONARD CROFFORD ON HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. MIKE BOST

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mr. BOST. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Leonard Crofford, who turns 100 years old today. Born on April 15th, 1921 and raised in Poplar Bluff, Missouri, Leonard met the love of his life, Rosaline (Rosie), when he was 15, and they got married shortly before he joined the Navy two years later. He first served in the U.S. Navy at Wheeler Army Airfield near Pearl Harbor in 1939. Leonard was just 15 miles away when Japan launched its December 7, 1941 attack on the base, throwing him from his bunk due to the aftershock from a bomb blast. Two years later, he joined the U.S. Army, spending most of his service overseas as a mechanic and teaching other soldiers how to repair tanks. In 1945, he was honorably discharged as a Master Sergeant. On October 6, 1945, Leonard married Rosie in Hammond, Indiana; and together they raised five children: Ronnie, Leonard, Diane, Connie, and Sharon. Forty years ago, Leonard and Rosie moved to Thompsonville, Illinois, spending the remainder of their remarkable 75-year marriage together, until Rosie passed away at the age of 97 on February 22, 2020. Leonard has carried on the traditions they shared, like attending Parish Church and gardening. Every

year he tends to a strawberry garden that he shares with family and friends. He is very much loved by his children and grandchildren and supported by the congregation of his church.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring Leonard Crofford of Thompsonville on his milestone 100th birthday. I thank him for his service and wish him a happy birthday.

—
SYDNEY HUYSER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Sydney Huyser for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Sydney Huyser is a student at Arvada High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Sydney Huyser is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Sydney Huyser for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

—
PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JODEY C. ARRINGTON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mr. ARRINGTON. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, I was unable to be present for one of the votes on March 17, 2021. Had I been present, I would have voted yea on Roll Call No. 87.

—
CONGRATULATING THE FAIRMONT HIGH SCHOOL BOYS BOWLING TEAM FROM KETTERING, OHIO ON WINNING THE STATE CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mr. TURNER. Madam Speaker, I want to congratulate the Fairmont High School Boys Bowling Team in Kettering, Ohio, which is in my congressional district, on winning the Division I state championship.

After nine previous appearances in the state tournament, this year's win was a fitting finish to an historic season that saw the Fairmont Firebirds bowling team bring home its first-ever state title. Months of preparation, practice, and experience enabled these talented athletes to out-bowl the competition and roll to

victory in the tournament. These young men have set an example for all of us that success in life comes to those who are willing to set goals, and work hard to achieve them.

I congratulate Head Coach Jeremy Fleck and Assistant Coach Matt Mahaffey on their victory in the state championship, and especially the student athletes: Dayton Foster; Dylan Potts; Tyler Milton; Tyler Stegemoller; Colton Mahaffey; and Isaiah Shannon.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the young men on the Fairmont High School Bowling Team on their hard-fought victory. They have made all of us from the Miami Valley proud.

—
ADELAIDE ROMO SONNEMAN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Adelaide Romo Sonneman for receiving the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award.

Adelaide Romo Sonneman received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Adelaide Romo Sonneman is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Adelaide Romo Sonneman for winning the Adams County Mayors and Commissioners Youth Award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

—
PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LAUREN BOEBERT

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mrs. BOEBERT. Madam Speaker, there was a glitch with my voting card. I would have voted yea on Roll Call No. 101.

—
PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TED BUDD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mr. BUDD. Madam Speaker, I was away from the Capitol around dinner time and could not return before the vote closed. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 102.

—
SYDNEY HARPER

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Sydney Harper for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Sydney Harper is a student at Three Creeks K-8 and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Sydney Harper is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Sydney Harper for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

—
RECOGNIZING MADISON DIAMOND'S POWERLIFTING STATE TITLE

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mr. HUIZENGA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate Montague Wildcats' powerlifter, Madison Diamond, on her state title in the 145-pound weight class at the State Powerlifting Meet in Ionia, MI.

Competing in high school sports this year has been a challenge with the ongoing pandemic. Nevertheless, Madison triumphed. In addition to her state title, Madison Diamond set the state record in deadlift for her weight class and then beat it two more times. The exclamation mark came with a 355-pound lift, totaling 710 pounds.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating this Montague Wildcat on her powerlifting state title and for being named the pound-for-pound champion across all weight classes.

—
REMEMBERING CORA CRAWFORD

HON. RAUL RUIZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mr. RUIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor my constituent, Mrs. Cora Crawford and celebrate her incredible life and legacy.

Mrs. Crawford moved to Palm Springs in the 1950s from Carthage, Texas, where she began her lifelong work as a community advocate. She attended the College of the Desert where she obtained her teaching credentials and a masters in education. As a substitute teacher in the City of Palm Springs, Mrs. Crawford was a devoted educator who put her heart and soul into every class she taught.

Mrs. Crawford carried her passion for education and community development with her outside of the classroom. She served as the local director for the Child Development Center and worked hard to secure the resources local students needed to succeed. In fact, she was a key advocate in obtaining \$350,000 in federal dollars from the Community Development Block Grant to benefit Desert Highland Park. Thanks to her efforts, Desert Highland Park now offers essential community services for local students and their families, including recreational, educational, and vocational programs.

The legacy of Mrs. Crawford's work is incredible. In the 1980s, she helped organize the very first Black History Month Parade in Palm Springs—a parade our community continues to proudly host each year. In all her years of volunteering and service, her tremendous work did not go unnoticed. The Palm Springs City Council and the California Baptist Convention Women's Auxiliary awarded her numerous commendations. In 1997, she was honored with the Terra Volunteer Award from the Palm Springs Chamber of Commerce. In 2012, she was recognized yet again for her commitment as a community leader and educator when Riverside County awarded her the Community Service Award.

Mrs. Crawford is survived by her children, Benita, Gil, Gwendolyn, and Randy. She is also survived by her nine grandchildren, Symeyon, Kenneth, Jarvis, Kristen, Usavia, Nyssa, Kyle, Deiter, and Javanni. I extend my deepest condolence to each of them. I also want to share my special condolences and support for my friend and her grandson, Jarvis. He, like his grandmother, continues to advocate for his community through social justice initiatives and uphold her legacy of making sure those who are in need, can find solace in community.

May Mrs. Crawford's work continue to uplift and inspire.

TAYLER PAINE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Tayler Paine for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Tayler Paine is a student at Arvada West H.S. and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Tayler Paine is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Tayler Paine for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

IN RECOGNITION AND HONOR OF
THE LIFE OF ELANA THOMAS

HON. NEAL P. DUNN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mr. DUNN. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to recognize the life and legacy of a special member of my community, Ms. Elana Thomas, who went to be with her Savior on March 1, 2021.

Elana was born May 7, 1948, in the small rural community of Sneads, Florida. Surrounded by pine forests and agricultural land, Sneads and greater Jackson County are home to hard-working men and women, many of great faith and fortitude. Elana was no exception.

Her life was not marked by monetary wealth or great business achievements, but her impact within her community was vast. She was not an elected official, but she was a leader to those who knew her. She was a trusted counselor and friend to many, a sounding board, and a valued advisor. She will be sorely missed, but those who knew her in life are assured she is in a much better place. Her faith in God was the bedrock she built her life upon.

Elana was a devoted church member of St. Peter Missionary Baptist Church for more than 30 years, often serving as a lay speaker or leading songs during services. She taught teens during Sunday School and was the president of the church's ushers' ministry. She had a comprehensive knowledge of the Bible, which she read and studied every day. She would often quote scripture to folks in crisis, providing them with relatable passages that might help them get through the period of turmoil they were experiencing. She counseled those in distress, providing loving and kind advice and direction to those who sought it from her.

She ministered with members of her church to inmates at nearby Apalachee Correctional Institution, volunteering her time and treasure to help men who had strayed from the path regain their footing for an eventual successful restoration back to their communities. She performed local missionary work, helping those less fortunate with a helping hand, a kind word, and a shoulder to lean upon.

When her mother fell ill, she diligently visited her every day she was able, in the assisted living facility, even after her own health made it difficult to do so. When her mother passed away, it was Elana who gave the eulogy, speaking eloquently and from the heart about her mother to the assembled family and friends who came to mourn her passing. Elana never let her health issues deter her from the service she was called to do.

Madam Speaker, allow me this moment to express condolences to Elana's family, friends, and colleagues. Though her presence will be sorely missed by many, I pray we may find solace in remembering her legacy for years to come. On March 13, 2021, family and friends traveled from far and near to celebrate her life and her church family was in attendance in great numbers. In the words of Bishop Adrian Abner of St. Peter Missionary Baptist Church, "Elana lived a life of devotion to those less fortunate. She was a woman of great faith and prayer and a treasured member of this

church and our community. She touched many with her kindness in word and deed." She leaves treasured memories with one son, Eddie D. Lovett, II and wife Susan of Raleigh, North Carolina; one brother, Jimmy Walker of Oxon Hill, Maryland; two grandchildren; and a host of relatives and friends. I join the entire community in honoring Elana Thomas for her dedicated life of service to others.

TRIBUTE TO THE OHIO NATIONAL
GUARD

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mr. STIVERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the people of the 15th Congressional District of Ohio to express sincere gratitude to the dedicated men and women of the Ohio National Guard for their exemplary commitment to service and to our great State.

Since the creation of the force in 1788, these extraordinary individuals have prioritized the health and safety of communities from Wilmington to McConnelsville, from Hilliard to McArthur. But in the past year, the citizen-soldiers of the Buckeye State have truly embraced their role as a "trusted team of soldiers, airmen, and civilians," serving through "agility, collaboration, excellence, and leadership."

Through a once-in-a-generation pandemic, the Ohio National Guard provided invaluable support. From manning food banks and managing COVID-19 testing locations at the onset of the pandemic, to now administering vaccines to their fellow Ohioans, our State is incredibly grateful for their service.

As the coronavirus raged, our nation saw a period of social unrest unlike anything in recent decades. Once again, the Ohio National Guard answered the call. Whether it was the Statehouse in Columbus, or the Capitol in Washington, our soldiers were willing to put their own safety in jeopardy in order to ensure the wellbeing of their fellow citizens.

Perhaps at no point in recent history has more been asked of our National Guard, and at no point have they answered with more conviction. They worked diligently day-in and day-out, never failing to embody the motto, "Always Ready. Always There."

As a Major General, and as a Member of Congress, I am filled with pride and gratitude of these men and women and of the sacrifices that they have made. It is an honor to recognize their hard work, and I ask my fellow colleagues to join me in expressing thanks for all that they have done, and all that they will do, for Ohio and our nation.

VINCENT VIGIL

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Vincent Vigil for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Vincent Vigil is a student at Drake Middle School and received this award because his

determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Vincent Vigil is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Vincent Vigil for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARJORIE TAYLOR GREENE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mrs. GREENE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, I was absent on April 13, 2021. I designated Mr. GOSAR as my proxy. Mr. GOSAR attempted to proxy vote for me, but was advised by floor staff that he was not the proxy. Because of this misunderstanding, Mr. GOSAR did not proxy vote on my behalf. Had I been present, I would have voted NAY on Roll Call No. 98.

CELEBRATION OF THE LIFE OF JOHN YOUNG

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mr. HUFFMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in celebration of the life of John Young, a remarkable community leader and activist who spent more than 30 years uplifting underserved communities in the North Bay Area.

John was born on October 25, 1952 in San Francisco, CA. He grew up in Marin City and attended Tamalpais High School and College of Marin. John went on to study public policy at San Francisco State University, where he developed a passion for social justice.

Recognizing the need to confront economic, health, and education inequities, John committed his career to championing more inclusive social policies. At the Marin City Community Development Corporation, John went to bat for the community that raised him, helping to plan and launch critical revitalization projects. The Canal Neighborhood in San Rafael benefitted from John's talents as an organizer and housing specialist for the Canal Community Alliance. John also successfully managed more than \$5 million in grants for programs supporting low economic and disadvantaged populations across the Bay Area.

John was a skilled problem solver who was able to effect change by bringing people together. In founding the Marin County Grassroots Leadership Network, he assembled a coalition for underrepresented residents to unite and speak with one voice. This helped secure more equitable policy outcomes, including housing, transportation, labor, and voting rights. In addition, more than 300 rising leaders were mentored and trained through the organization.

Friends, family, and colleagues knew John for his big personality that could brighten any room. With a deep sense of compassion and a people-first attitude, John embodied all the qualities of a fierce community organizer. Although he will be sorely missed, John's legacy will live on through the lasting positive impact he had on our community and beyond.

John's hard work made a transformative difference in the lives of many. Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask that you join me in extending condolence to John's family and friends and in expressing our deep appreciation for John's extraordinary career and life.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ANNISTON HIGH SCHOOL BOYS VARSITY BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Anniston High School Boys Varsity Basketball Team on their recent 4A state title.

The Anniston team beat Booker T. Washington-Tuskegee 54-52 in Birmingham at CrossPlex's Bill Harris Arena, clenching the state title.

This marks the school's first state title since 2009.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing the Anniston High School Boys Basketball Team. Congratulations to Coach Torry Brown and the Anniston High School staff and students. Go Bulldogs.

INSULAR AREA MEDICAID PARITY ACT

HON. GREGORIO KILI CAMACHO SABLÁN

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mr. SABLÁN. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the Northern Mariana Islands Wage and Economic Stability Act. This legislation delays for 18 months, in the Marianas only, any national increase in the federal minimum wage that Congress may enact. My bill, also, requires a Government Accountability Office report on the economic impact in the Marianas of such a national wage increase.

Unlike the rest of our nation, where minimum wage has been static, the minimum wage in the Marianas has more than doubled over recent years to reach the federal level of \$7.25.

These substantial increases have made life better for thousands of Marianas families and encouraged more U.S. workers to enter the workforce.

But I had to carefully time those increases year-by-year with legislation and based on the help of Government Accountability Office reports to ensure—successfully—that wages went up without jeopardizing jobs.

Economic conditions in the Marianas remain separate from the national situation. Whereas Gross Domestic Product rose nationally in 2019, in the Marianas GDP plunged 11.2 per-

cent that year. That decline came after a 19.3 percent decrease in 2018. And it is reasonable to expect the picture in the Marianas for 2020 will be no better. Our tourism-based economy will remain dormant until the pandemic has passed. Meanwhile, nationally, we expect growth on the order of 6 percent this year.

My point is simply this: If we are going to raise the wage in the Marianas—and, believe me, I do—then we must do it as we did before: with a close eye on the economic conditions in the islands. They are vastly different than conditions in the nation as a whole.

Again, I fully support raising the minimum wage in our country. It has been static too long. I am a cosponsor of the Raise the Wage Act—I want workers to earn more.

I believe the best way to accomplish that goal in the insular area I represent, however, is through my legislation, the Northern Mariana Islands Wage and Economic Stability Act. My bill will give Congress the analytical tools and the time to consider how best to schedule wage increases in the Marianas to improve the lives of workers and their families, while ensuring the businesses employing those workers can thrive.

TREY BELLAMY

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Trey Bellamy for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award.

Trey Bellamy is a student at Arvada High School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Trey Bellamy is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Trey Bellamy for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassador for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

JOHN LEWIS NIMHD RESEARCH ENDOWMENT REVITALIZATION ACT OF 2021

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 189, the John Lewis NIMHD Research Endowment Revitalization Act of 2021, which expands eligibility for research endowments available through the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities (NIMHD) to include former centers of excellence at health professional schools and biomedical and behavioral research institutions

that meet criteria related to the inclusion of underrepresented minority individuals in programs and activities.

NIMHD leads scientific research to improve minority health and eliminate health disparities by researching and evaluating all minority health and health disparities research at NIH.

The NIMHD's Centers of Excellence (COE)'s program fosters collaborative research in minority health and health disparities, and awards grants to institutions that have a specific unifying focus on addressing minority health and health disparities.

NIMHD Centers of Excellence program grants are awarded in order to:

Support innovative multi- and trans-disciplinary research to promote minority health and reduce health disparities;

Strengthen exemplary research training and education activities support the development of well-trained researchers from minority and health disparity populations;

Increase the number of individuals from minority and other health disparity populations participating in research activities; and

Provide support for engaging minority and other health disparity communities in effective and sustainable activities aimed at improving the health of their communities.

Racial health inequalities in the U.S. is the cumulative result of both past and present discrimination throughout U.S. culture, and the NIMHD centers of racial excellence program grants are essential to addressing these inequalities.

African Americans are not only more susceptible to disease and illness, they are also more likely to die from them.

This past year, as COVID-19 has ravaged African Americans and communities of color, we have seen firsthand the fruits of these inequalities.

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), African Americans face increased risks if they are stricken with COVID-19, including asthma, diabetes, high blood pressure, heart disease and pulmonary illness.

African American lives are placed at greater risk because of a health care system that denies access to the poor and work conditions that have long neglected conditions that leave them with a higher incidence of diseases that for far too long have gone under diagnosed and untreated.

There are many reasons for this but they include the refusal of several states to expand Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act; the resistance of small business employers to provide health care to workers until required by their state government to do so, and too little access to medical doctors who are trained to provide care to this COVID-19 at-risk population.

Since 2003, I have been working on major legislation to address the problem with several of my colleagues including Representatives Elijah E. Cummings, Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC), Delegate Donna Christensen, Chair of the CBC Health Braintrust, U.S. Senator Edward Kennedy, and the leadership of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, the Congressional Asian Pacific American Caucus, and the Native American Caucus.

Together we produced, the "Healthcare Equality and Accountability Act of 2003," a truly comprehensive bill designed to address the disparities that face our communities.

During my time in office, I have fully and eagerly supported all legislation that has given increased attention to HIV/AIDS, including the Ryan White CARE Act, which is currently slated to receive about \$2.2 billion in funding for FY2007.

I have supported legislation to reauthorize funding for community health centers (H.R. 5573, Health Centers Renewal Act of 2006), including the Montrose and Fourth Ward clinics in my home city of Houston, as well as supported legislation to provide more nurses for the poor urban communities in which many of these centers are located (H.R. 1285, Nursing Relief Act for Disadvantaged Areas).

I have also supported and introduced legislation aimed to better educate our children (H.R. 2553, Responsible Education About Life Act in 2006) and eliminate health disparities (H.R. 3561, Healthcare Equality and Accountability Act and the Good Medicine Cultural Competency Act in 2003, H.R. 90).

Mr. Speaker, we need strong collaborations and research based upon asking the right questions in specific areas, and the COEs are poised to emphasize scientific inquiry that will promote health equity.

Government has an obligation to seek the best for our nation's people, especially our nation's children.

I urge all members to join me in voting to pass H.R. 189, the John Lewis NIMHD Research Endowment Revitalization Act of 2021, because improved public health benefits all Americans, no matter who they are or where they are from.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GUY RESCIENTHALER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mr. RESCIENTHALER. Madam Speaker, I was detained during the vote series on April 14, 2021. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. S. 578.

PROTECTING INDIAN TRIBES FROM SCAMS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1762, the "Protecting Indian Tribes from Scams Act," which requires the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), after consultation with Indian tribes, to report on unfair or deceptive practices that target tribes or tribal members.

The FTC must submit the report to Congress and make it publicly available.

The FTC is directed to update its website to include information for consumers and businesses on identifying and avoiding unfair or deceptive practices that target tribes or tribal members.

Scammers are targeting Native people.

Scammers may say extra money is waiting for a small price upfront or that a testing kit or treatment for the coronavirus is available for a fee.

Other scams attempt to benefit from the \$1,200 Economic Impact Payment coming to most U.S. citizens; and more are expected to target stimulus checks authorized under the America Rescue Plan.

At least one tribal leader has warned tribal citizens of an email scam related to the coronavirus.

In an April 14 Facebook post, Ojibwe Chief Executive Melanie Benjamin wrote that an email purporting to be her had tribal citizens to purchase gift cards to help a citizen who tested positive for the coronavirus.

Benjamin asks those that may have received the scam email from a Gmail account to contact tribal police.

This bill will help protect our diverse Native American communities from scammers by providing valuable information that will help identify fraudsters and arm people with tools to protect themselves.

Our friends in the Native American communities across the nation have faced tremendous challenges during COVID-19 and they need our help to keep their nation's physically and financial safe during COVID.

I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

HOUSE RESOURCES REPUBLICAN FORUM

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 15, 2021

Mr. YOUNG. Madam Speaker, it is a unique responsibility to be the sole Congressman for Alaska in the House of Representatives.

It's easy for legislators to forget that life is different in Alaska, and it is my highest priority to ensure that Alaskans are not overlooked here in Washington, D.C.

One of the principal lessons I have learned in my years of service are the check and balances between the three branches of government inscribed by our Founding Fathers in our Constitution.

While the President of the United States governs the Executive Branch, Congress writes our laws and that's something we too often forget here.

Article I of the Constitution states: "All legislative Powers herein granted shall be vested in a Congress of the United States, which shall consist of a Senate and House of Representatives."

That said the President can only enforce legislation that Congress has drafted and approved.

The real power of this country lies within this Capitol building and we need to act like it.

For over 48 years I have worked tirelessly to address the crucial infrastructure and energy needs throughout Alaska.

Before being elected to public office, I saw firsthand Alaska's lack of traditional infrastructure while I was a tug and barge operator along the Yukon River.

But I could also see the potential economic development that communities and rural villages could achieve if they were given the resources to put ideas into action.

It is that driving knowledge that guides me as I work to support federal investment in Alaska's energy infrastructure.

Unfortunately, the Biden Administration is continuing Obama-era attacks against Alaska.

By reviewing federal rules that support Alaska and by placing a moratorium on energy development in ANWR, President Biden seems intent to surrender to his party's environmental extremists.

I want the President to know this: Alaskans have shown for decades that energy development and environmental protection can go hand in hand.

The executive actions he has taken in his first days in office serve only to hinder our state's economy, stifle energy independence, and prevent the Alaska Native community of Kaktovik from responsibly using their lands.

Tomorrow I will be proudly introducing Alaska's own Mathew Rexford, at the House Natural Resources Republican Forum titled, "Where are the Jobs?"

Mr. Rexford is the President of the Kaktovik Inupiat Corporation and a strong leader.

The Alaska community of Kaktovik has long advocated for access to their lands and the opening of ANWR.

Development in the 1002 Area of ANWR would create countless jobs, revenue streams, provide for infrastructure and improve the health and economic well-being of the indigenous people.

While the United States should continue working to reduce emissions, doing so in a way that denies the opportunity for incremental improvements and technological innovations over time is unreasonable.

Resource development in ANWR would be a major win for our nation's energy independence and security for decades to come.

I'm proud to stand with my friend Mathew Rexford to ensure that Kaktovik is heard on this issue.

I hope that the administration will listen and engage with native leaders like Mathew Rexford and I look forward to our forum tomorrow.

PROTECTING SENIORS FROM EMERGENCY SCAMS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 446, the "Protecting Seniors from Emergency Scams Act," which requires the Federal Trade Commission to report on, and increase awareness regarding, scams targeting older adults.

The FTC must: report on the number and type of scams that target older adults and provide policy recommendations to prevent such scams; revise the commission's web portal with current information about such scams, including contact information for law enforcement and protective services agencies; and coordinate with media outlets and law enforcement to disseminate such information.

Our seniors should not be victims of scams during coronavirus pandemic.

This bipartisan legislation will help protect seniors from fraud during this public health crisis and prevent emergency-related scams in the future.

Every year scam artists target senior citizens resulting in financial losses between \$2

billion and \$12 billion, and now during the COVID-19 pandemic, these scammers are using fear and uncertainty to take advantage of our vulnerable populations.

Our seniors have borne the brunt of this pandemic in high infection rates and deaths.

Now many seniors are being targeted by scammers who prey on their COVID-19 fears.

We must pass this bill and work to educate our seniors and those who care for them to look out for scams.

There is a moral obligation to stop these con artists by empowering seniors with facts and information while aggressively targeting criminals with all the resources available through the Federal Trade Commission.

Throughout the pandemic, uncertainty has led to many Houstonians falling victim to scam callers especially vulnerable populations like seniors.

Houston police and the Harris County District Attorney have made an arrest in an international cyber-scam that bilked unsuspecting, mostly elderly victims out of more than \$1 million.

One victim of the scam, Asuncion Peppers, 74, a retired medical technician knows that first hand; She was bilked out of her life savings.

Hackers contacted Ms. Peppers on Facebook, pretending to be one of her Facebook friends.

She was told she was eligible for a government grant of almost one million dollars and all she had to do was send a check to pay taxes.

Investigators believe the scammers were operating from Nigeria, defrauding senior citizens in the U.S. and around the world.

Before Peppers realized she was being conned, she sent checks totaling \$87,000 hard-earned money.

She said that she worked three jobs to build her life savings.

In her case the person who received the funds was 65-year-old Joe Reyes, who washed the funds through several local banks.

Reyes was receiving funds from scams and then converting them into Bitcoin to send back to the scammers.

Peppers and her husband are just two of 38 victims bilked out of more than \$1.3 million before the fraud was discovered.

Reyes is now charged with money laundering and other charges that could send him to prison for years.

Our seniors need our help to be physically and financial safe during COVID.

The Protecting Seniors from Emergency Scams Act is endorsed by the Elder Justice Coalition; American Society on Aging; and the National Adult Protective Services Association.

I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

NICHOLAS AND ZACHARY BURT MEMORIAL CARBON MONOXIDE POISONING PREVENTION ACT OF 2021

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1460, the "Nicholas

and Zachary Burt Memorial Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Act of 2021", named after two young Minnesotan brothers who died of carbon monoxide poisoning, which directs the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) to award grants to states and tribal organizations to install carbon monoxide alarms in the homes of low-income families and older adults and facilities that commonly serve children or older adults.

The Nicholas and Zachary Burt Memorial Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Act would also authorize the CPSC to establish a federal grant program to fund education and installation of CO detectors by state, local and tribal governments.

With better, commonsense safeguards in place, we can address the danger of accidental death by carbon monoxide poisoning, which represents a real danger for individuals and families.

According to the Center for Disease Control, at least 430 people in the U.S. die each year from carbon monoxide poisoning and approximately 50,000 people are forced to seek medical attention for accidental CO poisoning.

Carbon monoxide poisoning is an unimaginable way to die—it prevents blood from being able to buy into oxygen; causing suffocation while still being able to breathe.

Mr. Speaker, the devastating and unprecedented winter storm in Texas finally gave this important issue the national attention it deserves; but it came at the cost of the lives and health of Texans.

The plunging temperatures and persistent power outages this past / February found residents in my district searching for warmth increasingly from dangerous sources.

In one dark week in February, fire departments in Harris County alone responded to over 475 carbon monoxide calls.

During this week, like millions of Texans, Etenesh Mersha lost power during the storm.

In order to provide warmth for herself, her husband, and their two children, she turned on her car in an attached garage, leading to carbon monoxide poisoning for herself and her family.

Etenesh left the car running, and by the time help arrived, she and her daughter, Rakeb, died; Her husband and 8-year-old son were rushed to the hospital and survived.

A mother and daughter died while trying to stay warm because regulators in Texas had decided to forgo federal and state regulation.

At least 300 other cases of carbon monoxide poisoning, were reported in Harris County, making it a disaster within a disaster.

Although carbon monoxide is not visible, there are concrete ways we can protect against this unseen threat, including for those who are most vulnerable, like children and the elderly.

This legislation bolsters states' efforts to reduce the risk of carbon monoxide poisoning and help prevent these tragedies in Texas and across the nation.

Mr. Speaker, the CPSC must take action to better educate and inform families about the risks associated with improper methods to heat and power homes and work with the media to share this critical information.

I urge all members to join me in voting to pass H.R. 1460, the Nicholas and Zachary Burt Memorial Carbon Monoxide Poisoning Prevention Act of 2021, because the tragic deaths in Texas has shown that this danger must be addressed.

MICROLOAN IMPROVEMENT ACT
OF 2021

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1502—the “Microloan Improvement Act of 2021,” revises the microloan program managed by the Small Business Administration (SBA) to provide certain financial assistance to small businesses through designated intermediaries.

Specifically, the bill authorizes an intermediary to offer a line of credit to a small business, and it increases the average amount for loans from an intermediary to participating small businesses that makes the intermediary eligible for a reduced interest rate on SBA loans.

The bill also places limits on the repayment term for a microloan, and it prohibits the SBA from imposing any additional limitation on the term for repayment of a microloan.

Further, the SBA must:

reserve 15 percent of new loan funds that are made available for disbursement as microloans to designated underutilized states and make the remaining 85 percent available for any state;

establish a process for an intermediary to provide the major credit reporting agencies with information about a borrower that is relevant to credit reporting, and

include information regarding equitable distribution of loan funds in its annual report.

The SBA Microloan program approves up to \$50,000 to small businesses to provide businesses with working capital, or to purchase inventory, supplies, and equipment.

Loans for \$50,000 may not seem like a lot to a small business, but the micro small businesses that fill our neighborhoods would benefit from having access to these funds.

A micro enterprise employs nine people or fewer, and this is the most common kind of private-sector business in the United States.

Small business statistics show that while this might be the most common kind of enterprise, its share of employees is very small, providing only 10.5 percent of all private-sector jobs.

The fortunes of micro businesses during COVID-19 have been fraught with risks.

We know that:

82 percent of businesses that fail do so because of cash flow problems;

Small businesses employ 59 million people in the U.S.A.;

50 percent of all small businesses are operated from home;

84 percent of small business owners indicate that they're feeling optimistic about the future of their companies;

64 percent of small business owners begin with only \$10,000 in capital;

Approximately a quarter of small businesses begin with no financing whatsoever;

Only 40 percent of small businesses are profitable; and

Only 64 percent of small businesses have their own website.

Thousands of minority-owned small businesses were shown to be at the end of the line in applying to the government's Paycheck Protection Program (PPP).

According to an Associated Press analysis of the low-interest government loans, minority owners struggled more than white owners to find banks that would accept their applications; or otherwise were disadvantaged by the terms of the program.

Data from the Paycheck Protection Program released December 1 and analyzed by the Associated Press show that many minority owners desperate for a relief loan did not receive one until the PPP's last few weeks, while many more white business owners were able to get loans earlier in the program.

The program, which began April 3 and ended August 8 and handed out 5.2 million loans worth \$525 billion, helped many businesses stay on their feet during a period when government measures to control the coronavirus forced many to shut down or operate at a diminished capacity.

The PPP program struggled to meet its promise of aiding communities that historically have not gotten the help they needed.

The PPP program was especially difficult to access for micro businesses.

A micro business employs nine people or fewer, and this is the most common kind of private-sector business in the U.S. Small business statistics show that while this might be the most common kind of enterprise, its share of employees is very small, providing only 10.5 percent of all private-sector jobs.

As the economy continues to recover, we should not forget that not all businesses will recover at the same rate, just as all workers are not heading back into the workforce with the same opportunities to find or resume employment.

I ask my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill that will provide much needed financial support to our mom and pop businesses.

FRAUD AND SCAM REDUCTION
ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1215, the Fraud and Scam Reduction Act, which will create the Senior Scams Prevention Advisory Group and the Senior Fraud Advisory Office to improve the Federal Trade Commission's (FTC) prevention and response efforts against senior fraud and scams through enhanced coordination with key industries, consumer advocacy groups, appropriate law enforcement agencies, and consumers.

Every day, and far too often, vulnerable seniors in Texas and across the country fall victim to financial scammers.

Seniors have worked their entire lives with the promise of a safe and secure retirement, but unfortunately criminals are taking advantage of uncertainty surrounding the pandemic and working overtime to target them.

Retirement accounts are not the only damage these scams harm—they damage the independence and trust of a vulnerable community.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, we have seen instances of fraud rise in unprecedented numbers, as scammers attempt to take advantage

of senior citizens and deprive them of their hard-earned savings.

Bad actors preying on older Americans is, unfortunately, nothing new. But in the midst of a global pandemic impacting Americans' lives and livelihoods, cracking down on those scams must be a priority.

One such scam was thwarted by Houston police and the Harris County District Attorney, who made an arrest in February in an international cyber-scam that bilked unsuspecting, mostly elderly victims out of more than \$1 million.

This bill is aimed at cracking down on these scams by bringing public and private stakeholders together, so that we might give our seniors the resources they need to tackle these predatory schemes.

Although 1 in 20 seniors in the U.S. is a target of fraud schemes, the National Adult Protective Services Association has found that only 1 in 44 seniors report that they are victims of a fraud scheme.

The Senior Fraud Advisory Office will address these low reporting rates by directing the FTC to educate seniors, families, and caregivers of the process for contacting law enforcement after being targeted in a fraud scheme.

It will also direct the FTC to help improve the nation's fraud response efforts by reforming FTC's complaint system as well as enhancing fraud surveillance through better coordination with law enforcement agencies.

The Senior Scams Prevention Advisory Group will bring together relevant government agencies, consumer advocates, and industry representatives to collect and develop model educational materials for retailers, financial institutions, and wire transfer companies to use in preventing scams on seniors.

The FTC will coordinate efforts to educate the public and even the employees of key industries who often find themselves on the front lines of anti-scaming activities, helping prevent fraud before it happens.

Mr. Speaker, we need to strengthen federal prevention efforts and ensure leaders in the public and private sectors are collaborating on effective safeguards.

I urge all members to join me in voting to pass H.R. 1215, the Fraud and Scam Reduction Act, which is critical to protecting seniors' hard-earned savings and stopping fraudulent schemes before it's too late.

504 MODERNIZATION AND SMALL
MANUFACTURER ENHANCEMENT
ACT OF 2021

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 14, 2021

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1490, the “504 Modernization and Small Manufacturer Enhancement Act,” which modifies the Small Business Administration (SBA) 504 Loan Program an opportunity to modernize and expand.

The SBA 504 Loan Program allows small businesses to access SBA financing through a certified development company (CDC) for expansion or modernization.

Specifically, the bill adds policy goals, at least one of which a CDC must demonstrate to be eligible for assistance.

These include: enhancing the ability of a small business to reduce costs by using energy efficient products and generating renewable energy, and aiding the revitalization of any area for which a disaster has been declared or determined. The bill also authorizes a CDC to take specified actions to facilitate the closing of a 504 loan, such as correcting borrower or lender information on loan documents or reallocating up to 10 percent of the cost of a project.

The birth of modern manufacturing can be traced to the early 1780s, when American inventor Oliver Evans began experimenting with the first automated flour mill.

He developed the concept of continuous process milling, which relied on five so-called bulk material handling devices.

His machines and processes soon caught on across the country because they reduced manpower by 25 percent while increasing output—the era of automation had begun.

Today, small manufacturers are making new products that provide the best opportunities to ignite startups or help existing manufactures find new markets.

This bill increases the maximum loan amount from \$5.5 million to \$6.5 million, re-

duces the amount that they must contribute to project costs, increases job retention requirements, and revises collateral requirements and debt refinancing considerations.

Further, each SBA district office must partner with a resource partner to provide certain training for small manufacturers.

One of President Biden's first acts after becoming President was to sign an Executive Order to support manufacturers, businesses, and workers to ensure that our future is made in all of America by all of America's workers.

President Biden's Executive Order ensures that when the federal government spends taxpayer dollars, they are spent on American made goods by American workers and with American-made component parts.

This Executive Order fulfills President Biden's promise to make Buy American real and close loopholes that allow companies to offshore production and jobs while still qualifying for domestic preferences.

This bill is making it possible for President Biden's executive action to be fulfilled.

We need to support small manufacturers to produce what we need right here in the United States.

The COVID-19 pandemic was a lesson we should not forget, when the nation did not have enough personal protective equipment in the form of masks, gloves or face shields to protect health care workers or citizens from COVID-19.

It was essential that our nation never again be so ill prepared to weather a crisis like COVID-19.

Manufacturing creates good jobs for low and highly skilled workers across the nation.

In 2018, manufacturers in the United States accounted for 11.39 percent of the total output in the economy, employing 8.51 percent of the workforce.

Total output from manufacturing was \$2,334.60 billion in 2018.

In addition, there were an average of 12.8 million manufacturing employees in the United States in 2018, with an average annual compensation of \$84,832.13 in 2017.

We can make sure that Made in America means made in the thousands of towns and communities across the nation where people live, and work today.